

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

By providing an electrode configuration that generates a field with at least a significant component that is parallel to the direction of any form of external force that is liable to disrupt the agglomeration of ER particles, a stronger electrorheological binding force is provided between the particles to resist [and] any tendency for the agglomeration of particles to be broken up.